

bidding for them, so it's not really changing that much and they still have the option if they want to, to go out for bids so it's not really changing all that much. But it does give them an opportunity for the pool, and the pool has been very successful as Senator Landis has indicated. We started out with 32 counties when the pool initially was formed. We have now grown to 53 counties and, by the way, interestingly enough we have never lost a county that has gone back out of the pool once they have gone in in the six years that it has been in effect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Any other discussion on the advancement of LB 66? Seeing none, Senator Vrtiska, do you wish to close? He waives closing. We will now vote on the advancement of LB 66. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 66.

SPEAKER BAACK: LB 66 advances. I don't think that Senator Lindsay is here yet so we will pass over...Senator Landis, you are authorized to handle this? Okay, we'll go to LB 116.

CLERK: 116, Mr. President, introduced by Senator Lindsay. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 7, referred to Banking, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is Senator Lindsay's measure but he asked me to take it for him today. It was reported out unanimously by the Banking, Commerce, and Insurance Committee. It was a bill that was introduced last year and was also forwarded to the floor but time ran out on the bill so it did not pass last year. This measure has been in for two years and it has been promoted by Mutual of Omaha and in particular the fund management portion of that company in an attempt to reduce some of their expenses, expenses that they feel they have to pay in Nebraska where, if they were organized in another state, they would be free from paying. Those costs have to do with holding annual shareholder meetings under our laws as opposed to states where they would not be required to hold the same number of shareholder meetings.